



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF INDIAN AFFAIRS
WESTERN REGIONAL OFFICE

2600 North Central Avenue
Phoenix, Arizona 85004



IN REPLY REFER TO:

Division of Natural Resources

NOV 28 2018

Honorable Sherry Cordova
Chairperson, Cocopah Indian Tribe
14515 So. Veterans Drive
Somerton, Arizona 85350

Dear Chairperson Cordova:

On October 17, 2018 a meeting attended by Paul Soto (Cocopah Indian Tribe), Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) representatives, and representatives of the Bureau of Reclamation was held at the BIA Fort Yuma Agency. A purpose of the meeting was to engage in a 43 CFR, Part 417 (Part 417) consultation with the Cocopah Indian Tribe (Tribe). Part 417 obligates the BIA to see that releases of Colorado River water to tribal entities do not exceed those reasonably required for beneficial use. During this consultation meeting the Tribe's 2019 Colorado River water usage requirements and plans were discussed.

With consideration given to discussion held at the aforementioned consultation meeting and in fulfillment of responsibilities described in Part 417, the Regional Director, Western Regional Office, BIA has formally determined the Tribe's 2019 Colorado River water order. This water order is provided in the table below and corresponds with the monthly diversion schedule previously submitted by the Tribe to the BIA.

(However, a mistake was observed in the diversion schedule submitted by the Tribe. The total diversion figure did not correspond with the submitted monthly figures. This has been corrected in the table below). Estimated surface water diversions from Imperial Dam via the All American Canal and estimated groundwater pumping rates have been combined in the water order. A copy of the diversion schedule submitted by the Tribe to the BIA, along with the Tribe's completed Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire, is enclosed.

The Tribe's 2019 water order is (all quantities in acre-feet):

Month	Estimated Diversion
JAN	150
FEB	130
MAR	250
APR	600
MAY	200
JUN	200
JUL	200
AUG	200
SEP	200
OCT	200
NOV	100
DEC	150
TOTAL	2,580
ENTITLEMENT	11,518

This water order is being submitted to the Bureau of Reclamation for Colorado River water regulation and accounting purposes.

Please direct any questions to Mr. Jonathan Cody, Irrigation Engineer, at (602) 379-6789.

Sincerely,


Regional Director

Enclosures

cc: ✓Regional Director, BOR, LCRO
Steve Hvinden, BOR
Superintendent, Fort Yuma Agency
Paul Soto, Planner, Cocopah Tribe
Tom Davis, Manager, Yuma County Water Users' Association

Cocopah Tribe

Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire

The 43 Code of Federal Regulations, Part 417 (Part 417) obligates the Secretary of the Interior to see that releases of Colorado River water to Colorado River tribal entities will not exceed those reasonably required for beneficial use. Every year, the Cocopah Tribe (Tribe) is asked to submit an estimate of the Tribe's twelve month Colorado River diversion rate and anticipated monthly diversion schedules to the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA) for the following calendar year. The BIA is directed by Part 417 to consult with Colorado River tribal entities each year regarding water conservation measures, operating practices, and the beneficial use of Colorado River water.

For calendar year 2019, the Part 417 consultation is being supplemented with the collection of written information. This information, along with other relevant materials, will be examined by BIA Western Region staff. Following this examination, the Regional Director's determination of the approved diversion amount will be communicated in writing to the Tribe. Part 417 establishes procedures under which the Tribe may request modification of the determination or later appeal it to the Secretary of the Interior. Please review this Part 417 Consultation Questionnaire and reply to the listed topics.

Diversion: Provided in Table 1 is a historic review of the Tribe's demands for Colorado River water since calendar year 2013 based upon data acquired from the Bureau of Reclamation website on August 13, 2018 (<http://www.usbr.gov/lc/riverops.html>). Past water use is one factor that can be used in determining water requirements for the Tribe.

Table 1. Colorado River diversions for the Cocopah Tribe

Year	AZ Diversion (Acre-feet)
2018 Projected	2,962
2017	2,349
2016	2,699
2015	2,569
2014	2,890
2013	3,200

Part 417 Factors: Part 417.3 prescribes a list of factors to be examined by the BIA in approving a Tribe's annual water order. BIA consults annually with tribes utilizing Colorado River water on the Part 417.3 factors. The BIA requests an update of this information, and any additional written information that the Tribe desires to include, in order to support the Tribe's request for 2019 diversions. Please note that the implementation of water conservation measures may also affect water requirements.

Water Conservation Planning: In addition to providing a reply to each factor listed, the Tribe should also describe those activities implemented in 2018 which may influence the Tribe's water order for 2019.

Please respond to each item in the Consultation Questionnaire and fill out the attached diversion estimate table with your tribe's anticipated 2019 diversion quantities by month. The Tribe may return these completed forms to the BIA, or provide the requested information in a format of its choice, provided that the format addresses each factor. This written consultation, along with any other material considered to be relevant, will be used to determine the Tribe's approved diversion for calendar year 2019.

Part 417.3 Factors	2018 Reply	2019 Reply (Written)
Area to be Irrigated ¹	No Change	NO CHANGE
Climatic Conditions ²	No Change	NO CHANGE
Location ³	No Change	NO CHANGE
Land Classification ⁴	No Change	NO CHANGE
Kinds of crops raised ⁵	No Change	NO CHANGE
Cropping Practices ⁶	No Change	NO CHANGE
Type of Irrigation System in Use ⁷	No Change	NO CHANGE
Condition of Water Carriage & Distribution Facilities ⁸	Not Applicable	N/A
Record of water orders ⁹	Not Applicable	N/A
Record of Rejections of Water Orders ¹⁰	Not Applicable	N/A

¹ Has the Tribe added or reduced the number of turnouts or cultivated acres in its service area?

² List weather stations used, annual mean temperature and rainfall, and reference evapotranspiration (ET_o).

³ Have there been any changes in the location of Tribe's facilities (e.g. canals, laterals, gates, etc.)?

⁴ Quantify crop acres moved between soil classifications and projected impact on water use.

⁵ List changes in crop types (e.g. more/less alfalfa than last year, etc...) and the projected impact on water use.

⁶ Identify projected changes to cropping practices (e.g. sprinkle germination, etc..) and the expected impact on water use.

⁷ Has there been a change in irrigation methods such as more/less drip acreage, level basin acreage, etc.?

⁸ Amount of water delivered/sold to customers in acre feet.

⁹ Does the Tribe amend daily water orders with the USBR more than three times a month?

¹⁰ Have water orders from farmers been rejected by the Tribe (e.g. for non-payment, etc.), which would impact its water order?

Part 417.3 Factors	2018 Reply	2019 Reply (Written)
General Operating Practices/Policies ¹¹	No Change	NO CHANGE
Operating Efficiencies ¹²	No Change	NO CHANGE
Methods of Irrigation of the water users ¹³	No Change	NO CHANGE
Amount and rate of return flow to the CO river ¹⁴	No Change	NO CHANGE
Municipal Water Requirements ¹⁵	No Change	NO CHANGE
Provisions of Users Water Delivery Contract ¹⁶	No Change	NO CHANGE
Water Rates ¹⁷	No Change	NO CHANGE
Number of Ditch Riders ¹⁸	Not Applicable	NOT APPLICABLE
Water Conservation ¹⁹	No Change	NO CHANGE
Other Relevant Factors ²⁰	Not Applicable	NOT APPLICABLE

WATER CONSERVATION PLAN IMPLEMENTATION²¹

2018 Activity

1. NONE
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

¹¹ Have there been any changes to operating practices or policies? If so, describe the new operating practice or attach a description of the new policy.

¹² Total water consumed divided by total water diverted in percent.

¹³ Types of irrigation management practices employed (e.g. surge, cutback, etc.). Describe any changes to the type of management practice utilized and provide the quantity of acres affected by these changes.

¹⁴ Amount (cfs) and average rate (ft/sec) of return flow to the river.

¹⁵ The amount of water going to non-agricultural uses (municipal, industrial, feedlots, other, etc...) in acre feet.

¹⁶ Have there been any changes in the water service contract?

¹⁷ Have there been any changes in water rates? If so, submit the changed rates.

¹⁸ Number of ditch riders and areas/divisions each ditch rider works.

¹⁹ How much money will be spent by the Tribe on water conservation for 2019?

²⁰ Optional, please identify any other relevant factor/factors and explain why it would impact the water order.

²¹ Water conservation activities/measures/practices the Tribe implemented in 2018.

OTHER²²

Paul Lot

Signature

10-15-18

Date

²² Other relevant materials to submit (e.g. new water conservation plan, transfers, water price sheet, etc.).

Cocopah Indian Tribe Diversion Estimates by Month

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	SUBTOTAL	TOTAL
2018 Diversion Estimates (ac-ft.)	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	125	125	100	100	1,250	4,850
2018 Pumping Estimates (ac-ft.)	300	300	300	250	175	250	250	350	400	400	325	300	3,600	
2019 Diversion Estimates (ac-ft.)	50	40	100	450	50	25	25	25	25	25	25	50	880	2,570
2019 Pumping Estimates (ac-ft.)	100	90	150	150	150	175	175	175	175	175	75	100	1,690	